

000000Z JUL 77  
FM RUSSIA  
ZNY 55055 ZTH  
O R 051222 JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY YAKUT  
TO RUENGA/SECSTATE MOSCOW IMMEDIATE AND  
INFO RUMOSP/A  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY BOMBAY  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY TAIPEI  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY TIENTSIN  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
RUMOR/A/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

100-457231-5148

C.O. 12861; GDS 7/5/79 (LATIN, BRUCE A.) OR-M  
 TAGS: PEPR, PLUS, AF, US, UR  
 SUBJECT: (C) DETACHEE TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR AT KAROL ON SOVIET  
 MEDIA ALLEGATIONS OF U.S. INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: STATE 1724.12

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. AS INSTRUCTED IN PARAGRAPH FOUR OF THE REFTEL, I SAW ALEXANDER M. PUTANOV, SOVIET AMBASSADOR AT KAFUL, ON JULY 5, AT 3:00 P.M., THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME AN APPOINTMENT COULD BE MADE, AND PRESENTED TO HIM THE DEPARTMENT'S TALKING POINTS.

3. AFTER LISTENING TO THE DEPARTMENT'S POINTS, PUZANOV OBSERVED THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE MERELY BEEN REPEATING WHAT MUCH OF THE WORLD'S PRESS HAS BEEN SAYING ABOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE IN AFGHANISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. PUZANOV CLAIMED THAT HE HAD GAINED FROM TALKS WITH PRESIDENT TARAKI AND PRIME MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN AN IMPRESSION THAT THE KHALQI LEADERS HAVE "DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE" OF "FOREIGN INTERFERENCE" IN AFGHAN AFFAIRS. I REPLIED THAT HE HAD OFTEN CHALLENGED THE KHALQIS TO SHOW US ANY "PROOF" WHICH THEY THOUGHT MIGHT INDICATE USSR INVOLVEMENT. IN DATE, I ADDED, "NO SUCH EVIDENCE HAS BEEN DISPLAYED. PUZANOV OBSERVED THAT AFGHANISTAN WANTED GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE USSR. AS AN INDICATION OF THIS, HE CITED THE HIGH-LEVEL KHALQI ATTENDANCE AT OUR JULY 4 RECEPTION (SEE MABLE 5147). HE FURTHER OBSERVED THAT, "IN SPITE OF CLEAR EVIDENCE" THAT PAKISTAN HAS BEEN INTERFERING IN AFGHAN AFFAIRS, THE KHALQI REGIME HAS RESPONSIBLY OPENED A PROMISING DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUE WITH ISLAMABAD. PUZANOV CONCLUDED THAT THE USSR WELCOMED ANY SUCH PEACEFUL INITIATIVE THAT PRESERVED PEACE AND STABILITY IN THIS REGION. I REPLIED THAT WE SHARED THOSE OBJECTIVES, AND, RETURNING TO THE ORIGINAL POINT OF THE DEMARCHE, STRESSED THAT IRRESPONSIBLE PROPAGANDA, SUCH AS THAT IN THE JUNE 27 TASS PIECE, ONLY FURTHER INFLAMED THE SITUATION, HINDERING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THOSE GOALS.